



Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Warren, OH

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$500,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Warren for a Brownfields Pilot. The city of Warren (population 50,793) is a state-recognized distressed area with an unemployment rate of 17.4 percent and a poverty rate of 47 percent. During World War II, the city's steel mills produced 10 percent of the nation's steel. The 1970s collapse of the steel industry, however, resulted in an economic recession from which Warren is now starting to rebuild.

The city designed two redevelopment plans to revitalize Warren's economy—the Crosstown Corridor and the River Edges-New Environment for Warren (RENEW) plans. The plans call for redevelopment of two industrial/commercial corridors that contain 23 brownfields sites and that intersect near the center of the city. The Pilot targets the RENEW Plan corridor, a five-mile-long corridor that contains a mixture of residential, commercial, and light manufacturing properties including three unregulated dump sites and a former power plant.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Warren, Ohio

Date of Announcement:
June 1999

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets
brownfields within the
RENEW Plan corridor.

Contacts:

City of Warren
Community Development
(330) 841-2595

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 5
(312) 353-3161

Visit the EPA Region 5 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts,
additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and
publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

OBJECTIVES

The Pilot's objective is to spur Warren's economic revitalization by helping implement the RENEW plan. It will do this by conducting environmental assessments on four strategically located brownfields within the plan area, and completing cleanup and redevelopment plans for the sites. The RENEW plan includes revitalization of the downtown area, focusing on the city's recreational systems that include parks, bike and walk pathways, and wildlife sanctuaries that parallel the Mahoning River. The RENEW plan corridor is also a link in a proposed multi-purpose, ninety-mile recreational trail, the GreenWay Trail.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Conducting Phase I assessments of four sites within the city's RENEW Plan redevelopment area, and conducting Phase II assessments where necessary;
- Developing cleanup plans and determining cleanup costs and a schedule for each site;
- Examining redevelopment alternatives for the sites including a high-technology or research facility, parkland, and a footbridge extension;
- Investigating cleanup financing sources; and
- Conducting community meetings to get input on site-specific activities.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.